Hispanica 2 9

The wicked Plots, and perfidious Practises of the Spaniards, against the 17. Provinces of the Netherlands, before they tooke up Arms.

Being gathered out of severall Dutch Writers, by a lover of truth, and an unfained hater of Oppression and Tyrannie, the bane of Commonwealths.

[redacted]

Gentle Reader,

I Shall speak so much touching the cruel, inhumane, treacherous, perfidious; yea, unnaturall practises of the *Spaniards*, in these parts, and elsewhere, which may sufficiently delineate him in his deserved colours, that whosoever beholds him may mourn to see this *Hazael* so to tyrannize over the innocent, & that the Lord should permit, and the earth beare such an unheardof monster: yet notwithstanding much more might be added in sundry other particulars, as the Dutch Chronicles mention, and other Writers have wel set out: amongst which, although I my selfe be a stranger by Nation to them; yet since the time of my aboad here, having attained some understanding in the Language, I have thought fit to speake so much, which in my reading I have observed.

First, thou art to understand, gentle Reader; that the King of *Spain* was lovingly received here in the 17. Provinces, and a solemn oath was taken on both parts; the King for his part swore to maintain all their Lawes & Priviledges, and they to him all due homage & allegeance: Hepresently demanded of them a summe of mony, whereupon the States did assemble, and collected for him 40. millions of Florines, of *Brabants* money, to be paid in 9. years, and they paid it into the Exchequer, and although it was more then they had paid before to his predecessors, yet upon this he tooke great displeasure against them, and, as they write, he for this did hate them to death.

But he pretended this to be the cause of his wrath, becauseche saw that there were some among them, that did defie the Pope and all his Religion: but that could not be, for the City of *Aelst* was as superstitious in that Religion as *Rome* it selfe; for they did persecute the Reformed Religion even unto death: and yet for all that both they, and 170. fair Villages that belonged unto them, were by them plundered and spoiled of all their goods, and many of them wounded and tormented for to confesse where their money was, and many were killed. Thus much by the way.

My scope and chiefe intent is to shew the first and just cause of the wars in the *Netherlands*; whereby the diligent Reader (not partially affected) may clearely understand, that the *Netherlands* did not rebelliously take up Arms against a lawfull Prince, (as some ignorantly thinke and speake) but justly and religiously defend themselves against a perfidious Tyrant who sought their ruine, by all possible meanes he could, and the subversion of the whole State. A long while they patiently underwent his cruell oppressions, and intolerable vexations, as the Historiesclearely manifest; till there was no hope, but either they must become slaves in soule and body, worse then that of *Israel* in *Egypt*, they and theirs for ever, or else be butchered by merciless executioners of a cruell Tyrant. This Tyrant having a purpose to innovate all things, to root out ancient inhabitants, and to frustrate all

the Laws, Customes and Priviledges which himselfe had sworn to maintain; knew not how better to effect his evil ends, then by raising a bloody Inquisition to set over them for their government; which said Inquisition (raised in *Spain*) concluded and pronounced certain Articles, the tenth of February 1568. which were confirmed by the King, the 26. following. Now because it may appeare I do them no wrong in this charge; I will lay down the Articles themselves verbatim.

The Inquisition was there fou e yeares efore.

The most sacred Office of inquisition, so often attempted in the Netherlands by his Majesty, and hindered untill this time, shall be instituted and advanced in this manner, which is most expedient.

[illegible] *ed with b*[illegible] *ole administration of the Netherlands.*

2 *That the Emperour with his two sisters, having given over all affaires, leaving the Netherlands, shall retire into Spaine unto Vs, being assured that they shall never returne more to doe any harme.*

3 *These being dispatcht, we must also draw the King to us, and keep him for ever that he part not, and not suffer any Flemings to have accesse or conference with him.*

4 *That the King write unto, and command the Clergie of the Netherlands, that with the Inquisition they should accept of 15 new Bishops, the which should be free from all secular jurisdiction, yea in cases of treason.*

5 *The subjects of the Netherlands through their malice & waywardnesse, will revolt and move seditious and tumults, pleasing to all but our companie.*

6 *The Princes and Noblemen, heads and authours of those factions, with the subjects, must be taken away, and the others reduced unto reason.*

7 *They shall hire at our charge theeues and spoilers of Churches and Images, whose offences shall be by all the world imputed to Rebels, by some subtill meanes, and so we shall vanquish them.*

8 *That all Comerce, Negotiation, Liberties, and Priviledges, shal be rooted out, & that all be reduced to extream povertie, wherby the realm shal be permanent for Vs.*

9 *No man of all those Countries (except he be of our faction) shall be held worthy to live; and finally all to be rooted out: and all Goods, Possessions, Arts, and Trades, and all Orders to be taken away, untill there may be a new Realme, and a new people.*

10 *In this action the wise and valiant Duke* Alva *shall be imployed in person; whereas any other, were he of the blood Royall, or a Prince, shall be of no esteeme: so as being suspect yea in the smallest matters, they must be dispatcht.*

11 *No Contracts, Rights, Promises, Donations, Oathes, Privileges, and solemne Assertions of the Netherlands, shall bee of any force for the inhabitants, as being guiltie of high treason.*

12 *But above all we must have an especial care that in these matters of so great weight and moment, we proceed not violently, but by meanes, by degrees, and that discreetly, to the end the Princes, Nobilitie, and inferiour subjects may mutinie amongst themselves, so that one may persecute, yea execute the other untill at last the hangman be executed himself. For in all Christendom is there not a Nation more foolish and indiscreet, and whose levitie and inconstancie may sooner be deceived then these Netherlanders, and God punisheth them accordingly.*

There were other Articles found in president *Vergaes* chamber at *Antwerpe* and there printed; and those are more cruell then these, but not more subtile.

By these Articles & unlimited power of these lawlesse inquisitors, no man had any assurance of life or goods for a day, but were indanger continually to be called in-

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BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

to queſtion, either for the Law of their God, or for ſome work of mercy, which either religion, morall equity, or the bond of nature called for: or elſe if they had colour for none of theſe, they would impoſe ſuch unreaſonable taxations, which if the Cormorants had not their gorges crambed full, they would make prey of all, whether by right or wrong it mattered not. But my purpoſe being to avoid prolixitie, and to paſſe by impertinences and needeleſſe repetitions, I will come to that I intended.

In the yeare 1565. a match was concluded for the Prince of *Parma*, and the nuptials were ſolemnized at *Bruxels*, whither all the Nobility and Gentry of the countrey were invited, and accordingly there met of them about 400. who like faithfull *Moſes* being grieved to ſee the daily oppreſſion of their brethren by the hard task-maſters of the Inquiſition, who not onely robbed them of their goods, but alſo by inhumane cruelty, and unnaturall butchery, deprived them of their lives, who daily led them as ſheep unto the ſlaughter: The conſideration hereof they joyntly layd to heart, and hereupon (being met upon this occaſion) they reſolved to preſent a petition to the Princeſſe of *Parma*, which they did the 5. of Aprill next following. The E. of Breedrod delivering the Petition, humbly requeſted a favourable anſwer. Three dayes after they received this anſwer, *viz.* they ſhould ſend two of their Nolbemen to the King, by whom ſhe would write in their behalfe. The Lord of Barlamont being preſent, after their departure ſaid (*like a flattering Courtier*) they were a company of Raſcalls and Beggars.

The ſubſtance of this relation is not unſutable to theſe times.

It was concluded that the Marqueſſe of Bargen, and the Lord of Mountigny ſhould go into Spain, who humbly preſented their ſuit to the King, but could get no anſwer in 16. moneths after.

The 26. of Auguſt *Anno* 1566. the Princeſſe of *Parma* ſent for the Gentrie, telling them ſhe had received Letters from the King, containing promiſe that all ſhould be well, and that the inquiſition ſhould ceaſe. And for the Proclamations they ſhould not be of force, but his Majeſty would take ſuch order as they and the States ſhould well like of. The Princeſſe alſo gave them tolleration for their Religion, on condition they ſhould not deface, nor breake downe the ornaments of the Churches: for, there had beene before this time vile and leude perſons that frequented the meetings of the Reformed; theſe went into the Papiſts Churches, ſtole their ſilver and what was worth carrying away, and brake downe their Images: but the reformed ſuſpected that this was done by the appointment of the Princes, neither was their ſuſpition without good ground, for it is to be ſeene in the Kings letter, *Art.* 7. that ſhe had order to hire this raſcall company to doe this vilany, which fact was imputed to the Proteſtants, to the end that they might not onely be odious there, but alſo ſeeme guilty, even in the judgement of other Nations, howbeit the offenders were puniſhed with impriſonment, yea, with death, even by the reformed themſelves, who joyntly confeſſed the action unlawfull, and were ſo far from giving occaſion of offence in this nature, that Papiſt burgers themſelves offered good ſecurity, that no ſuch thing ſhould be attempted by them. Who then can make any doubt that they were free from having any hand in thoſe outrages laid to them? the very oppoſites in Religion being Judges, who as appeares were willing to undertake for them; now as their faithfulneſſe brought ſo good effect for their perſons, ſo did the Lord worke that the truth of religion found many friends likewiſe, the Lord wonderouſly proſpering the courſe of reformation, in ſo much that in ſhort ſpace they had in *Flanders* 60. Aſſemblies, ſome Churches they themſelves builded, but were by Duke *d Alva* ſoone caſt downe, who erected Gallowſes of them, and hanged them upon them,

Emanuell de Miter ſaith, that in Flanders they tooke 50. of them at one time, and hanged 22. and whipped the reſt.

The Princesse of *Parma* also began to entertain souldiers with pretence to apprehend the Church-robbars, but intended indeed to take away the ancient liberties and priviledges of the *Netherlanders*, wherefore sending certain Companies to *Valencyn*, the inhabitants denyed them entertainment, who for that vvere proclaimed Rebels the 14. of December, soone after they were besieged, sacked, and many of them put to death.

He pretended it for Religion, but his aim was to get their lands & goods.

But before they of *Valencyn* denyed entertainment to the souldiers, the Nobility had received letters out of *Spain*, from the Marquesse of *Bargen*, shewing, that the King vvas exceeedingly incensed against the *Netherlanders*, that he had in he presence of many vovved to be fully revenged of them, though it vvere vvith the hazard of all his Countries; that hee vvould make them an example to all the World, and vvould invite the Pope and Emperour to assist him in this quarrel. Vpon the receit of the Letters the Nobility assembled at *Dortmond* to consult vvhat vvere best to be done, but concluded not any thing, some judgeing it safest to joyn, and make head to resist his tyrannicall fury, others seeking rather to escape by flight.

As the Grau of Egmond, and the Grau of Horn, and many of the Gentry at Brussels, 1568.

The cruelty of this Inquisition did notwithstanding increase, and many souldiers came into the Countrey, that some of the Countrey forsook their houses, and resorted towards Frieczeland, and some did stay at home, and went to meete Duke *Alva*, and welcommed him into the Countrey, and shewed him all the kindnesse that they could, but he very shortly tooke off most of their heads, so that he did so terrifie the inhabitants, that there fled out of the countries more then 100000. householders, besides many that were taken in flying, were taken and hanged, and all these had their goods confiscated to the King.

The like taxations, though in another manner, have been practiced here before the Pavl.

Now the D. of *Alva* did commend all the inhabitants to pay the hundreth peny of all their goods, and of all that was bought and sold, the which some of the States did yeeld unto: And then he commanded them to pay the twentieth peny: and then he commanded the tenth peny of all things that were bought and sold, so often as they should be sold. Some of the States did make their humble Petition to the Duke, and to the Princes, shewing them that it would drive all trading out of the land. The Duke of *Alva* told them that he would have it, though it did ruinate all the land: but if he saw them to doe their best to pay it, he would deale favourably with them. But he said that it was against the Kings honour if they should not pay it, seeing it was his pleasure to require it. And now did the Inquisition imprison and execute many of the richer sort, as well Papists as of the reformed Church: and if they were rich there was no escaping for them. And whosoever was found to have any hand in way of suit and petition to have the tenth peny to be remitted, they were adjudged to have committed high treason against God and the King; and all these must forfeit life and goods to the King, and not any of their children to enjoy one peny worth of the same: but (poore Orphanes) they must beg their bread. And some that had been buryed certain months, they caused to be digged up, and hanged on the gallows, and some to be burned, because they had not the sacrament, and confessed before their death; but it was because he would confiscate their goods to the King: yea when these insatiable gold-thirsty and bloud-thirsty wretches wanted colour to cover their injustice and cruelty, they had their officious imps (false witnesses) suborned by *Jesabel*, to get *Nabaths* vineyard; vvitnesse *Martin Hutton*, vvho vvas one of the Inquisitors Clarks, and (being committed to prison) did acknovvledge that he had made many false testimonies against sundry rich persons, some vvere of the reformed Church. Here might fitly be brought in the hundred Merchants of *Granado*,

All the prisons were filled, insomuch as they were forced to prepare more, and filled them also.

who

vvho vvere of the Romane Religion, and vvere never other; vvhat pretence had he to cauſe them to be murthered all in one night, and then preſently to command all their goods to be brought to his treaſurie or Exchequer, whoſe eſtate was vvorth more then 28. hundred thouſand pound ſterling? Novv as this tyrant vvas a devourer and deſtroyer of the lives of men, ſo he did preſume to uſurpe further not onely upon civil ordinances, but upon the things of God; ſo that thoſe that vvere married in the reformed Church, he forced to be married againe: and if they vvere rich, he tooke them from their husbands, and gave them to his ſouldiers to make prize of them: thoſe that were babtized in the reformed Church, be compelled to be baptized again, contrary to Gods word, and to the decree of the ancient councels, ſo intolerable were the burthens that this cruell *Pharaoh* laid, ſo exceſſive was his cruelty, that he filled all places with blood, *bloud touching blond*, as the Prophet ſpeaks. For in ſmall townes he executed 50. and in great townes 200. and 300. or 400. And in places as men travelled from one towne to another, they might ſee many that his ſouldiers had hung up in trees to death, and ſome were worth 80. thouſand guldens, and ſome leſſe: yea this tyrant did confiſcate ſo much lands and goods, as by his accompt ſent into Spain, did amount yearely to 8. mn of money ſterling, beſides the many thouſands that he and his ſouldiers had. All the money that he did exact out of this land in 6. yeares, did amount to more then 50. millions of gold. And if any were knowne to have any thing that did beleng to any that were put to death, and had not brought it to the knowledge of the Inquiſition, they did looſe both life and goods: yea the 16 of February 1566. he gave ſentence in his court at *Madrill*, that they were all traytors againſt God and himſelfe. At *Vtrecht* he beheaded a widovv that vvas 84. yeares old, becauſe ſhe had before lodged a preacher one night, vvhoſe living vvas vvorth foure thouſand guldens yearly. And at *Maſtricht* a father for lodging his ſon that he had not ſeen in a long time, that vvas fled for religion, vvas put to death. And at that place there vvas one put to death for giving a vvidovv a peck of corn for an alms, vvhoſe husband this bloody court had put to death. And many vvomen vvere put to death, becauſe they received their husbands in the night that vvere fled for religion; yea they have killed vvomen great vvith child, and ripped up their bellies, and taken out the child and killed it, and ſome they have fleyed alive, and covered drums heads vvith their skins, and ſome they have tyed to a poſt, and made a ſmall fire round about them, and ſo roaſted them to death.

The like cruelties may juſtly be feared to be among us, if the Pavl. ſhould be ſubdued.

At *Naerden* they received the Spaniards friendly into the tovvne, vvho promiſed them both their lives and goods; and as ſoone as they came in, they commanded them to come to the Statehouſe vvithout their Armes, the vvhich they did, and the Spaniards gave fire upon them and murthered them all: and then they ran about in the tovvn and raviſhed the vvomen, and after Killed them and fired the tovvne. The yong children that lay in the Cradle, they quartered them, and tooke them upon their pikes, and ſo vvent up and dovvn the tovvne rejoycing in their cruelty.

The like cruelty they did at Oudwater.

Take heed of ſuch treachery here.

Such ſavage cruelty is ſcarcely to be found in any hiſtory, vvhat Chriſtian heart can hear it, and not be affected vvith deep ſorrovv? yet behold ſome monſters herein have been found, that have beene ſo far from humanity herein, (for he that hath humanity in him vvill commiſerate others calamities) that they have applauded it, as if he had in all theſe outrages done God good ſervice. Amongſt the reſt, I ſhall content my ſelfe at this preſent, but to name the holy Father the Pope, and one of his chiefe ſonnes in this buſineſſe. The Pope ſends his Legate to commend theſe ſo rare exploits, and cals this cruell Duke *Alva* his beloved ſonne, ſends

him a coſtly ſword, the hilts whereof were of gold, and a hat wrought with gold, and beſet with rich and coſtly ſtones, thanking him for his good ſervice in maintaining the Romiſh Religion and ſubverting of hereticks. Howbeit that his chiefe ſon I mentioned (exceeding this man of ſin in the ſin of cruelty, as if he would verifie himſelfe to be ten fold more the child of Satan, then his father the Pope) thinkes not ſo well of it, his name is *Vergas*, the Preſident of this bloudy Inquiſition; for going ſhortly after into *Spain*, he told the King, that he & Duke *d Alva*, did marre all in the *Netherlands*, by ſhewing ſo much mercy to thoſe people.

Theſe words he ſpake at a banquet as he ſate at the table, yeioycing hee had done the King ſo good ſervice.

Concerning this Duke *d Alva*, of whoſe outrage and cruelty ſo many haue felt, and perfidious dealing which many haue found by lamentable experience, whereby may eaſily appeare of what ſtamp his exceſſiue mercies are, even ſuch as the Wiſe man ſpeaks of, *Pro.* 12. 10, *the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.* In which he prides himſelfe, boaſting he had ſlaughtered eighteen thouſand and ſix hundred, in form of juſtice, in ſix yeares time, and ten times ſo many he and his Souldiers murthered otherwaies. And many more would he doubtleſſe haue murthered, had not the Lord reſtrayned and limited him, for his deſire herein was as hell, that cannot be ſatisfied: Witneſſe the purpoſe of his proceeding againſt the Magiſtrates of *Bruxels*, becauſe they did not collect the tenth peny ſo as he deſired. He ſware that he would have it, and before he would let it fall or remit it, the Sun and Moone ſhould leaue their ſhining, ſo he went to Bruſſels, and commanded the executioner to prepare ladders and ropes to hang up that night in their doores 70 of the citizens, and gave them his warrant in writing what they ſhould be: But God in his providence prevented this his cruel purpoſe, in that there came news that the Graue of Mark had taken in the Brill; ſo the tyrant did not goe forward with his bloody enterpriſes.

Anno 1573. *April* 1.

I haue inſtanced but 4. or 5. townes, but there were ſcarce any town eſcaped their cruel pillaging, except they had bribed their Commanders with exceeding large gifts.

Thus having given you a taſte of ſome of thoſe many things I haue obſerved concerning the intolerable oppreſſion, & worſe then ſalvage cruelty of the Spaniards, exerciſed upon the people, which they endured and laboured under the ſpace of ſixteene yeares; I will now leave theſe cruel tyrants to the Lord for judgement, and addreſs my ſelf to ſpeak ſomewhat further concerning this Earle of Mark, who had thoſe Gentlemen with him that fled. Before this hee had layne with his ſhipping in England, but the King of Spaine ſending his Ambaſſadour to our Queen (who was then in peace with him) to deſire her that ſhe would not ſuffer his ſubjects to have their harbour in her land, and that ſhe would not give them or ſuffer them to have any reliefe whereby they ſhould make head againſt him: and hereupon the Queene ſent and commanded them out of her harbour, and ſhe commanded that they ſhould not be ſuffered to have any proviſion in her coaſts, ſo that now they had no other means but onely God, who did in his mercie provide for them better then they expected. For they were purpoſed to haue gone for the Taſſel, and to haue taken ſome towne about that part; but when they came neere that part, they had the wind contrary that they could not come there, ſo they went for the Maiſe, and came with their ſhips before the Brill, and there they went preſently & took it; yet the Duke of Alva had his forces in the towne, neere ſo many as they were, whom they preſently killed and chaſed out of the towne, and out of the Iland. The Prince of Orange being in France, and hearing what had happened, he ſent them ſouldiers with as much ſpeed as could be out of France. And within one moneth after Duke Alva ſent certain companies to Vliſhing to keep that place ſtrong for himſelf, and many of the commanders were come into the towne: So the Magiſtrates commanded the citizens to come preſently upon the Stathouſe, ſo they told them they muſt lodge Spaniards in their houſes; and they knowing how

how they hade uſed the citizens in all places where they came, they told the magiſtrates they would not have the Spaniards in their towne, the Magiſtrates asked them which of them it was that did refuſe to receive them. They ſaid, All of them. So the Magiſtrates ſeeing them ſo earneſt againſt the Spaniards, they joyntly tooke their Armes, and killed and took priſoners all them that were in the town, and with their Ordnance they ſhot at his ſhips where the Spaniards were, and they made away. And of thoſe that were taken, there were the names of about 80 that they had in writing from Duke Alva that dwelt in the Iland, that they ſhould put to death. So thoſe of the Bril ſent their Souldiers with ſpeed to help them. And ſhortly the Prince of Orange came with forces and defended them; and ſome other townes ſeeing the crueltie of the Spaniards, forſooke the Spaniard, and joyned with them, and took the Prince of Orange to be their Protector, yet the States notwithſtanding did remain in obedience to the King ſ me ſeven yeares after.

He had appointed thoſe to bee executed becauſe they were the chiefe that ſtood againſt the pryment of the tenth peny.

Again it is further worthy to be noted that theſe Provinces did three times ſend to the King their Noblemen, but could obtain no mercy, and many more times they went to the Princeſſe of *Parma*, and made their humble petition for redreſſe of their oppreſſion, but could not obtain any favour, then they made friends to the renowned Queen of England, and to the Princes of *Germany*, and to the Emperour, who did earneſtly entreat by their Ambaſſadours for them. The King of *Spain* anſwered their Embaſſadours with theſe words; he bade them tell their Maſters, *That they ſhould meddle with their own ſubjects, and not with his, for he knew well enough how to rule his ſubjects without their Counſel.* Now vvhen our Queens Majeſty found his unreaſonableneſſe and cruelty, then and not before, ſhe aſſiſted them with Armes.

Anno 1575.

His ovven ſon Prince *Charles* did intreat for them, that it vvould pleaſe him to let them have their Lavves and Priviledges, and that they might not be ſo oppreſſed; and vvithall he told his father that thoſe Countries did belong to him, and that they vvere given him at his Baptiſme, for the vvhich his father ſent him to priſon, and he never came our again. If the Lord vvould not have forgot vvhat *Amalek* did, long after, for ſmiting the vveakeſt and hindmoſt of his people, hovv may vve in equity forget the infinite murthers, and ſpoiles, this cruel Tyrant hath executed vvhereever he hath prevailed? And vvho can forget in ſpecial that bloudie attempt againſt our ſelves, in the year 1588.

Marplam *in his Cronicle*. Anno 1567. *Pray the like may not be bee in* England.

If I ſhould trace this Tyrant from place to place, I ſhould runne in infinitum, having made the name of Chriſtianity hateful by his crueltie, amongſt the Heathens that knovv not God further then the light of nature: for it is confeſſed by the *Spanyards* themſelves, that ſome of the chief of the *Indians*, vvho were to be burnt to death, being told of heaven and hel, they asked whither the *Spaniards* vvent vvhen they dyed? It vvas anſvvered to heaven, *Oh then ſayd they we will never come where the Spaniards are.* But not to run ſo far, I vvill reſt content to keep me vvithin the bounds I chiefly intended concerning theſe Countries. When the Citizens of *Leyden* vvere in great extremity, by reaſon of a long ſiege, the *Spaniards* proffering conditions of peace, if ſo be they vvould yeeld up the Citie and themſelves to them, they returned anſvver; *Not while they had a right hand to hold the ſword, or a left to eat*, but if they ſhould be driven to fall into their hands, they would rather burn the Citie and drovvn themſelues, then to ſubmit to them, of vvhoſe perfidiouſneſſe they had had ſo lamentable experience: and vvhen ſome of the Citizens preſſed a yeelding, in reſpect of the extremity of famine, a Burgermaſter, called *Peter Adrianſon*, ſaid; *Loving friends I confeſſe the famine is great, and that ſome doe die for want of food: yet rather let us agree to eat up one another, as it ſhall fall by lot, begin with me firſt, and divide me amongſt you.*

They were exhorted by a popiſh prieſt to minde, that after this life there was one place for joy, & another for torment.

At

At *Antwerpe*, the *Spaniards* by the appointment of their Governour did come into the Citie in battel order, and marched up and down their ſtreets, and ſhot into their houſes, and made a tumultuous noiſe, as if they had been ſo many devils, for one day and two nights, and took the keyes from the Magiſtrats, and ſet watch at the Ports; whereby they put the Citizens in ſo great fear, that many women with childe fell in travel, and ſome dyed with feare: and they went by 12 or 20, into the beſt houſes, & commanded them to prepare them the beſt cheer, as boyled and roſt, & other dainty diſhes, as they liſt to call for; and beſides beer, they would have at leaſt two ſorts of wine. And all the chiefeſt Citizens houſes had at leaſt ten of theſe gueſts. And they all cryed out for money, and ſaid that they would have 13. moneths pay before they went out of the City, of them; and the Magiſtrates told them that they would procure them in cloth, and apparel, and money the ſumme; but they all cryed out for mony, and that mony they would have before they went away; ſo at the laſt, the Magiſtrats got the mony, which did amount to 400. thouſand Guldens. And the charge they were at, which theſe companions did coſt the Citizens, was 600. pound ſterling the day, and thus they were oppreſſed with them 28. dayes, in which time they had made them all rich ſutes, ſome of ſattin and velvet, and ſome of cloth of gold: and one of them had a cuſhion of velvet, with theſe words in letters of gold, *I am the Dutchmans Bride-well Maſter.* And thus they got rid of them for the preſent. And about two yeers after they came again, and then they uſed the Citizens much more cruelly, for theſe divels did bring ſtraw, and ſet on fire, & put it into the houſes, whereby they ſet nine rich ſtreets on fire, and burnt them with many rich and coſtly goods, and rifled the Citizens of all their rich and coſtly jewels, and ſilver-works, with their money, and three dayes did they torment the inhabitants for money: and in this time there was murdered of the citizens above four thouſand. The money they took at that time is reckned for more then 40. tun of gold, beſide the Jewels and the loſſe they had by fire, was as much as the reſt. And thus was the beſt city of Marchants in Europe ruinated.

No ſort excepted.

They did offer them two parts in money, and the 3. in cloth, but they cryed all for money.

There ſtands in the Chronicle a quire of paper of their cruelty againſt this City.

Divers things being manifeſted of the Spaniards cruelty, I will adde one inſtance of their trechery, and that of a famous perſon to his neereſt familiars; yea when he pretended ſweeteſt familiarity and friendſhip, Pope *Alexander* the 6. a Spaniard by birth, invited divers Nobles and Cardinals to a banket, with a purpoſe to poyſon them all. The meereſt inſtrument he made choyce of to effect this, was a Spaniard, one *Ceſar Burgia*, his ſworn ſervant. The Pope ſhewed himſelf wonderfull pleaſant to avoyd ſuſpition, and drank a carouſe to them all; willing that his truſty ſervant to fill from ſuch a borrell he knew well: which he did very effectually to the Pope himſelf as well as to the reſt. After the company was departed, the Pope perceiving by an alteration in himſelf, what was done, and that he muſt die now alſo, ſayed to *Burgia*, *This is a right Spaniſh trick.* It is written of them that they are ſo expert in theſe exploits, that if *Judas* himſelf were alive, he might goe to them to Schoole.

In the yeare 1580. the States proclaimed K. Philip to have loſt his right, by reaſon he violated his oath.

A Spaniards kindneſſe to his friends.

FINIS.